



### **Action Items During Constituent Work Week**

**MESSAGE-** Without expanding American energy production, our nation will continue to see energy prices skyrocket. House Republicans have introduced legislation as part of the American Energy Initiative which aim to bring down energy prices, create jobs, and reduce our dependency on foreign energy resources.

### **SUGGESTED ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Discuss Gas Prices at Your Scheduled Events**

- Explain the need to expand American energy production and how it will create jobs, reduce energy costs, help grow our economy, and reduce our dependence on foreign sources of oil.
- Highlight relevant committee and floor action you have participated in and your vote on H.R. 1229, H.R. 1230, and H.R. 1231.
- Gather testimonials from constituents at the event to share with Washington on how high energy prices affect their daily lives. Ask them to submit their stories in writing and collect them after the event.
- Utilize your social media platform for promotion before, during, and after the event.
- Tape your event, take pictures, and send to Conference.

#### **Meet with Interested Parties**

- Arrange for meetings with public officials (school superintendents, police chiefs, mayors, etc) to discuss how rising fuel costs will affect their communities and their bottom line.
- Arrange for meetings with non-profit groups (Meals On Wheels, other volunteer organizations who must travel for their services) to discuss how rising fuel costs will affect their organization's work.
- Arrange for meetings with farmers, trucking companies, or any other businesses where fuel costs weigh heavily into their overhead and how rising fuel costs will cut into their growth and ability to create jobs.

-For all of these meetings, plan ahead and ask if they are comfortable with media attending/covering the meeting. If so, book a local media outlet to cover the meeting. If not, visit the local media outlet after your meeting and summarize the meeting.

-Contact the Whip's Office for more information about coordinating meetings with energy coalition groups in your district.

### **Provide a summary of events at the end of the Constituent Work Week**

-Issue a press release summarizing your events, provide a link to your relevant YouTube videos and pictures posted on your website

-Tape a 2-3 minute video from your District Office or other landmarks in your district discussing the need to expand American energy production, the House's plan of action, and summarize constituent testimonials you heard during the week.

-Prepare an Op-ed piece for placement in a Sunday (or weekend) paper at the end of the week.

-Send an e-newsletter to constituents over the weekend to summarize your events and the House's plan of action in upcoming weeks.

-Cross post all content on your social media platform throughout the week

### **Host a Gas Station Event**

How it works:

-District staff coordinates which gas station(s) the member will visit and the Communications Director/Press Secretary invites all energy/environmental reporters in the district as well as general congressional reporters from TV, radio, and print.

-Member can pump gas for patrons, talk with them about gas prices and the need for energy legislation, and photo ops in front of pumps.

-District staff travels with the Member to take notes and photos during the visit.

Questions Member can ask:

-How are the rising gas prices affecting you and your family?

-How much are you spending on gas this year compared to last year?

-Have you had to cut back on any driving due to high gas prices?

-Do you support increasing American oil production? (E.g. offshore drilling, ANWR, etc.)

-What do you think are the causes of high gas prices?

The benefits:

-Simple way for reporters to get a local angle on a national story (high gas prices), generally positive press for the Member.

-Generates well-publicized contact between the Member and constituents.